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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,879	07/14/2003	Nai-Ching Kuo	.252205-1070	6819
24504	7590	04/15/2004	EXAMINER	
THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, LLP 100 GALLERIA PARKWAY, NW STE 1750 ATLANTA, GA 30339-5948			MACARTHUR, VICTOR L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3679	

DATE MAILED: 04/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/618,879	KUO ET AL.
	Examiner Victor MacArthur	Art Unit 3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 3, 11 and 13 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- The phrase “hold” (line 10 of claim 1) should be replaced with “held” to improve claim clarity. Claim 3, 11 and 13 are similarly objected to.
- The phrases “allows” (line 3 of claim 3) and “busing” (line 3 of claim 3) should be replaced with “allow” and “bushing” to improve claim clarity. Claim 13 is similarly objected to.

Appropriate correction is required. For purposes of examining the instant invention, the examiner has assumed these corrections have been made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11, 13-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the applicants admitted prior art.

Claim 1. The applicant's admitted prior art (figs.1, 2a and 2b) disclose a transmitting system (110) in a scanner chassis (specification, para.3-6) comprising a bushing rod (112) and a bushing (111), wherein the bushing comprises: a first spring strip set (201) disposed in one end of the bushing, wherein the first spring strip set comprises a plurality of spring strips (211) which function to clip onto the bushing rod; and a second spring strip set (202) disposed in the other end of the bushing, wherein the second spring strip set comprises a plurality of spring strips (211) which function to clip onto the bushing rod, wherein during an assembling process of the transmitting system, the spring strips of the first and the second spring strip sets can be held open (prior to insertion in to 111) to allow the bushing rod to pass through, and then the bushing clips (via 201, 202) to the bushing rod by the potential for the spring strips to return to their original position.

Claim 3. The applicant's admitted prior art discloses that there are gaps (gaps on either side of 211) disposed between the spring strips permitting the spring strips to be held open and allow the bushing rod to pass through during the assembling process.

Claim 4. The applicant's admitted prior art discloses that there is a flange (inner ring portions of 201 and 202 at the base of 211) disposed on the inner surface of the spring strips strengthening the attachment of the busing and the bushing rod.

Claim 5. The applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the flange is ring shaped.

Claim 6. The applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the bushing rod and the bushing are attached by interference fit (in as much as the applicant's invention is).

Claim 7. The applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the bushing rod and the bushing are attached by close fit (in as much as the applicant's invention is).

Claim 8. The applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the bushing is made of an elastic material (in that it necessarily requires some elasticity to perform as disclosed).

Claim 10. The applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the bushing rod is made of metal (specification, para.3).

Claim 11. The applicant's admitted prior art discloses a scanner (specification, para.3-6), comprising: a transmitting system (110) comprising a bushing rod (112) and a bushing (111), wherein the bushing comprises a first spring strip set (201) and a second spring strip set (202), wherein the first spring strip set is deposited in one end of the bushing comprising a plurality of spring strips (211); the spring strips function to clip onto the bushing rod (para.4); and the second spring strip set is deposited in the other end of the bushing comprising a plurality of spring strips (211); the spring strips function to clip onto the bushing rod (para.4), wherein during an assembling process of the transmitting system, the spring strips of the first and the second spring strip sets can be held open to allow the bushing rod to pass through, and then the bushing clips (via 201, 202) to the bushing rod by the potential for the spring strips to return to their original position.

Claim 13. See rejection to claim 3 above.

Claim 14. See rejection to claim 4 above.

Claim 15. See rejection to claim 5 above.

Claim 16. See rejection to claim 6 above.

Claim 17. See rejection to claim 7 above.

Claim 18. See rejection to claim 8 above.

Claim 20. See rejection to claim 10 above.

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-14 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Huang U.S. Pub. 20030095292.

Claim 1. Huang discloses (figs. 1 and 2b) a transmitting system (14) in a scanner chassis (1) comprising a bushing rod (15) and a bushing (20), wherein the bushing comprises: a first spring strip set (left 24) deposited in one end of the bushing, wherein the first spring strip set comprises a plurality of spring strips (241, 242) which function to clip onto the bushing rod; and a second spring strip set (right 24) deposited in the other end of the bushing, wherein the second spring strip set comprises a plurality of spring strips (241, 242) which function to clip onto the bushing rod, wherein during an assembling process of the transmitting system, the spring strips of the first and the second spring strip sets can be held open to allow the bushing rod to pass through, and then the bushing clips (via 241, 242) to the bushing rod by the potential for the spring strips to return to their original position.

Claim 2. Huang discloses that the bushing is an integrated single device (p.2, para.29).

Claim 3. Huang discloses that there are gaps (between 241, 242) disposed between the spring strips permitting the spring strips to be held open and allow the bushing rod to pass through during the assembling process.

Claim 4. Huang discloses that there is a flange (21) disposed on the inner surface of the spring strips, strengthening the attachment of the bushing and the bushing rod.

Claim 6. Huang discloses that the bushing rod and the bushing are attached by interference fit (in as much as the applicant's invention is).

Claim 7. Huang discloses that the bushing rod and the bushing are attached by close fit (in as much as the applicant's invention is).

Claim 8. Huang discloses that the bushing is made of an elastic material (p.2, para.29).

Claim 9. Huang discloses that the elastic material is plastic (p.2, para.29).

Claim 11. Huang discloses (figs.1 and 2b) a scanner (1), comprising: a transmitting system (14) comprising a bushing rod (15) and a bushing (20), wherein the bushing comprises a first spring strip set (left 24) and a second spring strip set (right 24), wherein the first spring strip set is deposited in one end of the bushing comprising a plurality of spring strips (241, 242); the spring strips function to clip onto the bushing rod; and the second spring strip set is deposited in the other end of the bushing comprising a plurality of spring strips (241, 242); the spring strips function to clip onto the bushing rod, wherein during an assembling process of the transmitting system, the spring strips of the first and the second spring strip sets can be held open to allow the bushing rod to pass through, and then the bushing clips (via 241, 242) to the bushing rod by the potential for the spring strips to return to their original position.

Claim 13. See rejection to claim 3 above.

Claim 12. See rejection (Huang) to claim 2 above.

Claim 13. See rejection (Huang) to claim 3 above.

Claim 14. See rejection (Huang) to claim 4 above.

Claim 16. See rejection (Huang) to claim 6 above.

Claim 17. See rejection (Huang) to claim 7 above.

Claim 18. See rejection (Huang) to claim 8 above.

Claim 19. See rejection (Huang) to claim 9 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang U.S. Pub. 20030095292 in view of Chang U.S. Patent 6091516.

Claims 10 and 20. Huang does not disclose what material the bushing rod is made of. Chang teaches (col.3, ll.19-21) discloses that it is well known to make bushing rods from metal. Metal is an inherently high strength material. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the Huang bushing rod from metal, as taught by Chang, since metal is an inherently high strength material.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor MacArthur whose telephone number is (703) 305-5701. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne can be reached on (703) 308-1159. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

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Art Unit: 3679

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April 13, 2004

Lynne H. Browne
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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